Central Government Assistance to State Government for opening 'Industrial Development Centres'

126. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the criteria of determining 'Industrial Backwardness' of an area stiputed by Central Government;

(b) whether Central Government provides any assistance to the State Government, for opening 'Industrial Development Centres' in each district Centre for the development of backward areas;

(c) if so, what is the quantum of assistance being provided by Central Government to each such Centre; and

(d) how many such Centres have been started in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Industrial backwardness of an area was determined after taking into account various factors *viz.* distance from large cities and large industrial projects, poverty of the people, density of population in relation to utilisation of productive resources and employment opportunities, adequate availability of electric power, water and transport and communication facilities.

(b) and (c) With effect from 1.4.83, the Central Government had formulated a scheme to assist the State Governments having No Industry Districts to develop infrastructural facilities in identified growth centres. The Central assistance was limited to 1/3rd of the total cost of infrastructural development subject to a maximum of Rs. 2 crores per No Industry District.

(d) Malanpur, Manheri, Meghnagar, Pithampur, Purena and Pillukhedi growth centres identified by Government of Madhya Pradesh for development of infrastructural facilities in the No Industry Districts of Bhind, Mandla, Jhabua, Dhar, Panna and Rajgarh have been approved by the Central Government and a sum of Rs. 2.75 crores has been released as Central assistance in respect of these growth centres.

Production of Cement

127. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of cement would be surplus over the expected demand in 1988-89;

(b) if so, how do Government propose to meet the probability of crisis in cement industry due to surplus production;

(c) whether Government expect that the overall production of cement would fall after 1988-89 due to curtailment and lowering of production by the cement industry as a whole as a solution to their crisis; and

(d) if so, how the Government will ensure "no fall" in the cement producing units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir. The target of cement production for the year 1988-89 fixed in consultation with the major cement manufacturers is 43.5 million tonnes. The Working Group on Cement Industry for 1985—90 had estimated the demand for cement in 1984-85 and 1989-90 as 37 million tonnes and 49 million tonnes respectively. On this basis, the demand for 1988—89 is estimated to be 46.3 million tonnes at a uniform growth rate of 5.78% per annum.